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USA

Attention: Erika Garrett.

AUG 14 2002

Date: 11 July 2002.

GROUP 3600

Dear Examiner,

Re: Application No. 09/836,677; Filing Date 17 April 2001; Art Unit 3636; Applicant: Brook, Sapoty.

In response to the Office Action dated 28 May 2002, Brook proposes the following amendments and explanations in relation to the examiner's references and objections.

Claim Rejections –35 USC § 112

Amend claim 6 as follows:

Replace: "has sufficient tensile strength" by "includes an elastic material"

Explanation: The elasticity absorbs shock, whereas the tensile strength merely provides an upper limit to any momentary force.

Insert: "by reducing the maximum tension" after "... pressure shocks".

Explanation: An impulse is spread over time by the elasticity, thus reducing the peak amplitude of tensile forces in the furnishing. This is an explanatory phrase which adds nothing to the essence of the claim.

Delete: "such as 100 kg falling 1 metre onto the furnishing"

Explanation: Remove the indefinite limitation.

New claim 6:

~~6 The convertible inflatable furnishing of claim 5 wherein the connecting means includes an elastic material to absorb pressure shocks by reducing the maximum tension resulting from sudden loads applied to the furnishing.~~

Delete claim 21:

Explanation: Brook thought this was a standard final claim, but if it is not acceptable Brook is happy to delete it.

Claim Rejections –35 USC § 102

Amalgamate claims 1 and 2: